

- (v) Officials of International Federations (IFs);
- (vi) Officials of National Olympic Committees (NOCs);
- (vii) Officials of the National Paralympic Committees (NPCs);
- (viii) Officials of other organizing committees for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (OCOGs); and
- (ix) Certain official guests, international media representatives, and high-level executives of sponsoring organizations.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9112, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 61 FR 1522, Jan. 22, 1996; 61 FR 53058, Oct. 10, 1996; 61 FR 56439, Nov. 1, 1996; 63 FR 671, Jan. 7, 1998; 63 FR 36366, July 6, 1998; 65 FR 14771, Mar. 17, 2000; 66 FR 38542, July 25, 2001]

§ 41.102 Personal appearance of applicant.

(a) *Personal appearance required or waived.* Except as otherwise provided in this section, every alien seeking a nonimmigrant visa is required to apply in person before a consular officer. The requirement of personal appearance may be waived by the consular officer in the case of any alien who is:

- (1) A child under 14 years of age;
- (2) Within a class of nonimmigrants classifiable under the visa symbols A, C-2, C-3, G, or NATO;
- (3) An applicant for a diplomatic or official visa;
- (4) Within a class of nonimmigrants classifiable under the visa symbols B, C-1, H-1, or I;
- (5) Within a class of nonimmigrants classifiable under the visa symbol J-1 who qualifies as a leader in a field of specialized knowledge or skill and also is the recipient of a U.S. Government grant, and such an alien's spouse and children qualifying for J-2 classification;
- (6) An aircraft crewman, applying for a nonimmigrant visa under the provisions of INA 101(a)(15)(D), if the application is supported by a letter from the employing carrier certifying that the applicant is employed as an aircraft crewman, and the consular officer is satisfied that the personal appearance of the alien is not necessary to determine visa eligibility; or
- (7) A nonimmigrant in any category, provided the consular officer deter-

mines that a waiver of personal appearance in the individual case is warranted in the national interest or because of unusual circumstances, including hardship to the visa applicant.

(b) *Interview by consular officer.* Except when the requirement of personal appearance has been waived by the consular officer pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, each applicant for a nonimmigrant visa must be interviewed by a consular officer, who shall determine on the basis of the applicant's representations and the visa application and other relevant documentation (1) the proper nonimmigrant classification, if any, of the alien and (2) the alien's eligibility to receive a visa.

(c) XIX Olympic Winter Games and VIII Paralympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2002. (1) For purposes of the XIX Olympic Winter Games and VIII Paralympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2002, the reference made to "the consular officer" in paragraph (a)(7) of this section is interpreted to include the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services.

(2) The Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Visa Services is authorized to make a blanket determination that a waiver of personal appearance for all "Olympic Family Members" and "Paralympic Family Members" accredited by the Salt Lake Organizing Committee (see § 41.101(f)(2)) is in the national interest.

[52 FR 42597, Nov. 5, 1987; 53 FR 9112, Mar. 21, 1988, as amended at 66 FR 38542, July 25, 2001]

§ 41.103 Filing an application and Form OF-156.

(a) *Filing an application.*—(1) *Filing of application on Form OF-156 required unless waived.* The consular officer may waive submission of an application, under paragraph (a)(3) of this section, for certain aliens for whom personal appearance has been waived under § 41.102. Except for persons for whom such waivers have been granted, every alien seeking a nonimmigrant visa must make application therefor on Form OF-156, Nonimmigrant Visa Application, unless a prior Form OF-156 is readily available at the consular office